

1965 *OR* **16** 210 This *data dump plays an important part on the SIMPAC system, since very little analysis is done during the run, this all being reserved for a post-run program. **1977** *Amer. Polit. Sci. Rev.* **71** 308/1 The unadjusted historical reconstructions of the congressional returns are also included in the Census Bureau's *Congressional District Data Book*, giving that volume a few election returns in what is otherwise a massive data dump of 303 demographic and economic characteristics of congressional districts. **1994** *Interzone* May 62/3 It's a sequel to *Warrior* (which should ideally be read first..) but there are enough data-dumps in the early chapters for this to be optional. **2003** *Austral. Financial Rev.* (Nexis) 15 Apr. 37 'The system that runs the tolling function does a daily data dump', says Goding. 'The ERP system reformats it and then imports it into a journal ledger.'

► **data smog**, confusing masses of information, esp. from the Internet, in which the erroneous, trivial, or irrelevant cannot be easily or efficiently separated from what is of genuine value or interest (often in figurative context); obfuscation generated by this; cf. **information overload* s.v. [INFORMATION](#) *n.*

1993 D. SHENK in *Next Progressive* Sept. 7 (*heading*) *Data smog. **1997** D. SHENK *Data Smog* 16 We..routinely find ourselves burdened by problems of excess. Now, for all the wonders of the information revolution, a menacing cloud of 'data smog' has drifted in. **1999** *Austin (Texas) Amer.-Statesman* (Nexis) 7 Oct. A13 The solid investigations are often lost in the 'data smog' of fluff, ads and unedited information. **2000** *Wired* Feb. 176/2 For humans, the detection of a meaningful signal in clouds of data smog happens subliminally all the time.

► **data stream** chiefly *Computing* (also **datastream**), a continuous sequence or flow of data or instructions.

1961 *Accounting Rev.* **36** 282 At first glance, the respective names for accounting and sampling results seem to reflect the difference in *data streams. **1985** *Inmac Catal.* Spring-Summer 67/1 In the RS-232-C Standard, it can involve dedicated pins (hardware handshake) on adding control characters to the data stream (software handshake). **1996** *Guardian* 13 May II. 12/5 We may learn to stop thinking of distinct channels, and acknowledge that we are simply tapping into a vast datastream, bringing bank statements, the latest Nintendo game, our favourite programmes at times convenient to us. **1999** J. NAUGHTON *Brief Hist. of Future* (2001) i. 11 The 'plug-ins'..which extend the capability of browsers like Netscape to handle digital audio, compressed movies and other arcane data streams—seem as weird as the cat's whiskers of yesteryear.